

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DURBAN 00109 291535Z

60

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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R 290935Z MAR 74

FM AMCONSUL DURBAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1692

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L DURBAN 0109

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINUBNV HINTGN SF

SUBJECT: DR. MANAS BUTHELEZI PRESSES COURT CASE

REF: A) DURBAN A-17 B) DURBAN 433, 7 DEC 1973

1. TEXT DIGS STATEMENT FROM CONGRESSIONAL RECORD RE
BANNING OF DR. MANAS BSTHELEZI (NATAL REGIONAL DIRECTOR
CHRISTIAN IN TITUTE BANNED 6 DEC 0973 REFTEL) DELIVERED
TO DR. BUTHELEZI IN HIS PIETERMARITZBURG OFFICE 27 MAR.
FOLLOWING POINTS EMERGED FROM ENSUING BRIEF CONVERSATION
BETWEEN BUTHELEZI* CONGEN OFFICER AND JULIUS WALKER
(DIRECTOJ REGIONAL AFFAIRS STAFF, AF).

2. BUTHELEZI CONTINUES PRESS R30,000 (US DOLS 45,000)
DAMAGES ACTION FBR DEFAMATION AGAINST "TO THE POINT"
MAGAZINE FOR ITS FEB 1 EDTIORIAL (REFAIR). SUMMONS HAS
BEEN SERVED ON MAGAZINE'S EDITOR AND JOHANNESBURG PUBLISHERS.
"TO THE POINT" ATTORNEYS RECENTLY OFFERED BUTHELEZI
R5010 (US DOLS 7500) OUT OF COURT SETTLEMENT. BUTHELEZI
RESPONDED THAT SETTLEMENT ACCEPTABLE IF AND ONLY IF
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PAGE 02 DURBAN 00109 291535Z

MAGAZINE PRINTS PUBLIC APOLOGY FOR DEFMATORY TEXT OF

EDITORIAL. ATTORNEYS REPLIED 25 MAR THAT MAGAZINE
WOULD NOT RPT NOT COMPLY WITH BUTHELEZI CONDITION.

3. IN DISCUSSION US INVESTMENT IN SA, BUTHELEZI
REASONED THAT "THREAZGZ OF FORCED US DISINVESTMENT WOULD
BE SIGNIFICANT ELEMENT IN HELPING PROMOTE PEACEFUL
CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA:SA PRINCIPLE TO WHICH HE
REMAINS DEEPLY COMMITTED. HE EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER,
THAT ACTUAL DISINVESTMENT COULD WORK ONLY TO DISADVANTAGE
OF SOUTH AFRICAN BLACKS.SUN THIS VEIN HE SUPPORTS HIS
COUSIN (KWAZULU CHIEF COUNCILLOR GATSYA BUTHELEZI) IN
CALL FOR CONTINUED US AND OTHER FOREIGN INVESTMENTS
ON CONDITIN THAT INVESTORS COMMITTED TO RAISING BLACK
WAGE SCALES ACD IMPROVING WORKER BENEFITS.

4. COMMENT: BUTHELEZI APPEARS OPTIMISTIC RE PENDING COURT
CASE IN WHICH PUBLIC APOLOGY MORE IMPORTANT THANSANY CASH
SETTLEMENT. HE DETERMINED TO CLEAR HIS NAME AND WILL
CONTINUE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE TO PRESS FOR PEACEFUL
RESOLUTION OF SA CONUNDRUM.
HOLMES

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